Human Events YOUR WASHINGTON SERVICE

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CUBA: *Responsibilities and implications* ....(257)

BUSINESS: *Disillusioned with JFK* .....(257)

SPACE: *Was Gagarin a ringer?* .....(258)

HIGH COURT: *New pro-labor decisions* ....(259)

ACHESON: *Conflict of interest?* .....(259)

Crisis: In Washington these days, much solemn discussion centers on the question—to whom must be assigned the responsibility for the debacle of the rebel invasion of Cuba. This talk has nothing to do with blame for the installation in power of Castro—for which clearly the previous Administration must bear the onus.

No less a person than James Reston, Washington bureau chief of the pro-Kennedy New York *Times*, reported (April 21) that the President bears full "personal responsibility" for making the decision to unleash the anti-Castro rebel forces to invade their homeland. Press circles in the Capital agree with this report.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the State Department bear a major, secondary responsibility for the disaster. Both agencies reportedly have prompted the President to recognize the Miro Cardona group as head of the rebel forces. Cardona is a leftist, a former aide to Castro in his Red excesses—"another Tito." When Kennedy "gave him the nod," say experts on Cuba, he damaged the fighting morale of anti-Castro rank and file (who see little difference between Castro and Cardona).

This undoubtedly was one factor in the failure of anti-Castro forces within the island to "rise" effectively against Castro policy when the landings took place. Fondness for socialistic regimes and parties has been long known to be an integral part of State Department and CIA thinking.

As newspaper editors in convention here anxiously discussed the crisis, some recalled that Kennedy in his campaign last fall talked rather tough about challenging Castro. They possibly were referring to an October 15 speech in Johnstown, Pa., when Kennedy taunted Nixon, saying his opponent "talks about standing firm in the Far East, but he never mentions standing firm on Cuba. If you can't stand up to Castro, how can you be expected to stand up to Khrushchev?" Kennedy asked. (New York *Times*, October 16, 1960.)

Blame, but also recriminations are abroad in the Capital. A number of observers talk of our "missing the boat," when we failed to give sufficient aid to the invading rebels. They comment: "This is worse than Hungary." Why? Soviet MIG's and tanks, manned not by Castro Cubans but by Poles and Czechs (of this fact the military here are sure), have been mowing down Cuban rebels with impunity, just as Soviet tanks crushed the Hungarian Freedom Fighters in Budapest in 1956. The US alibi for failing to intervene on the side of those Freedom Fighters was "logistics," too far away, no lines of communication. In the case of Cuba, 91 miles away, we have no such excuse today. And, it is pointed out, Soviet Russia—although it is at a greater distance from Cuba than the US is from Hungary—has decisively used Red armed forces to protect the Castro regime.

But the prevailing mood in congressional, military and diplomatic circles is one of brooding apprehension over the implications of an eventual Castro victory. Fear of the loss of Latin America for the free world, perhaps even loss of our friends in Europe, as well as vast encouragement for Soviet aggression in Asia—these reactions underlie the tight-lipped and discreet comments of any who venture to speak on the record. Some veteran observers, as of today, evaluate the Cuban debacle as the worst this country has suffered since Pearl Harbor.

Spot reaction of some who listened to the President's speech to the editors last Thursday was—"fine words and encouraging promises, but no tangible evidence of any American action to ensure the success of the hard-pressed Cuban rebels."

Administration vs. Business: All signs and portents indicate that the honeymoon between the Kennedy Administration and business (if it ever really existed) is fast drawing to a close. The earlier mood of many businessmen—that "what the hell, he'll be all right, ain't he the son of a big millionaire?" attitude—seems to be fading fast. The wild spending proposals, the multitude of appointments given left-wingers, the pro-labor stance and many other developments have had their effect on business and its representatives in Washington.

Considered significant was a hard-hitting speech last week by Charles Sligh of the National Association of Manufacturers, in which he attacked "centralism" in government, specifically assailing the Kennedy regime's Federal aid-to-education, urban renewal, housing and unemployment compensation legislation. HUMAN EVENTS learns that one of the biggest business magazines in the country is readying a strong editorial blast at the Administration's program.

A speaker (from Washington) told a trade association in New York last week that the present Kennedy program is simply a blueprint for the socialistic control, which, if unchallenged, the Administration will clamp on the country.

Observers in the Capital point out that actually the White House has had no get togethers with key

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business groups at all. The speech by the President before the Washington meeting of the National Industrial Conference Board on February 13 was no olive branch; the NICB is simply a business research organization, not a policy-making business group (like the NAM or the US Chamber of Commerce).

Whatever the White House offers, sparingly, in the form of business depreciation allowances, it cannot offset—according to industrial observers—the bad business effect of the appointment of radicals to key positions, such as in the regulatory agencies. According to the grapevine, even Speaker Sam Rayburn, vowed to the success of the New Frontier, vainly rebelled against the White House appointment of Joseph C. Swidler to head the Federal Power Commission. From this post, much damage could be inflicted upon the oil and gas industry. As for Vice President Lyndon Johnson, it is understood he goes along with Rayburn, "as far as he could go without getting caught at it."

Economists in Washington, scanning all indices in the present business recovery from the recession, are commencing to assess this additional factor—an anti-business Executive arm of the government—in the future course of business activity and prosperity. They say they cannot exclude this negative development from their computations and speculate as to how seriously it may affect recovery.

Man in Space? Despite the orgy of credulous newspaper coverage in this country about the supposed sending and returning of a space man by the Soviet government, experts in Washington remain increasingly dubious about the so-called accomplishment as described in Moscow dispatches. Comments by Yuri Gagarin and Soviet officials are—it is observed—riddled with contradictions and highly incredible assertions.

One claim, which prompts acid reaction among US military men, is the "parachuting" of Gagarin (if it was Gagarin) to the ground. Airmen say this assertion is perfectly ridiculous: "You can't parachute from a plane at that speed."

Another point of much discussion is the Soviet contention that the missile or plane did not have photographic equipment—photography would be an essential mission of such a space expedition.

The list of American scientists' dubieties concerning the flight would fill many pages. Even the most cautious experts insist that many discrepancies must be cleared up and that the Soviet Russians have an awful lot to explain. Moscow has simply not submitted the evidence—it is said—on which one can accept their claim of sending a man into space and successfully returning him to earth. Among military intelligence quarters, speculation is reported along the line that the USSR did put a man into space, failed to return him alive, then engaged in a clumsy (it is suggested that Gagarin was a ringer) publicity stunt to cover. All scientists concede the Soviet capability of putting a man in space, but as for returning him, that is another matter.

Inside Kennedy: As the liberal Administration juggernaut moves on American business, Kennedy seeks to explain to the labor-liberal left which put him in power why he has not moved faster against business, in the "100 days" fashion of his idol—Franklin D. Roosevelt. Last week, observers in the Nation's Capital were fascinated by a story in the liberal pro-Kennedy paper, the Washington *Post* (April 17), entitled "Nation's Basic Conservatism Limits Kennedy's Program." Chalmers M. Roberts, the by-lined staff writer of the piece, obviously either had an interview with the President or was heavily briefed by Kennedy's advisers. In any case, there is little doubt that the views are those of the President, and his main thesis—the power of American conservatism—echoes many views among the Right Wing as to the essentially conservative complexion of the American people.

Roberts pictures Kennedy as wishing to "go further" with his radical program and ideas, but not daring because of a realistic knowledge of a "basic mood in American life" which is traditionally conservative.

He presents Kennedy's reasons for "go slow" as follows: "Since the end of the Civil War only five Democrats have been elected to the Presidency as compared with 11 Republicans. Even more important, four of those five Democrats barely won elections, whereas almost all the Republicans won big victories." The big exception, F.D.R.'s victories, came as a result of the Big Depression. "From these facts Mr. Kennedy reasons that the United States, except in dire times, is essentially a conservative, contented, even complacent nation." Kennedy dismisses the big Democratic membership in Congress because it includes the Southern Democratic conservatives who give the party majorities in the House and Senate. "The arithmetic of Congress of course brings this out."

Observers reading all this ask themselves: "Does this mean the pace of the New Frontier revolution against business and free enterprise will continue to be slow?" They note a possible exception in the Roberts story, and a sinister one in view of the present international tension: "*Barring a foreign emergency,* the President's actions on domestic programs are motivated by his belief about the attitude of the American public."

Goldwater: Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin, an ultra-liberal Democrat, has apparently become an ultra-scared politico in light of the conservative resurgence in America.

Proxmire said in a recent Hartford, Connecticut, speech that "the great political phenomenon of today is the onrush of a conservative movement that would repeal many of the Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt reforms of the past 50 years." The Senator said he felt that Senator Barry Goldwater was the leader of this movement and that if Gold-

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water "can maintain anything like the momentum he has achieved in recent months, he'll be the man to beat for the Republican nomination in 1964." Proxmire said that he notes the "onrush" of conservatism "not only in Wisconsin but elsewhere in America."

"Goldwater has won the most surprising personal following in my own state of Wisconsin that any non-President has achieved in many years. Wisconsin visitors come to see me wearing Goldwater buttons. Letters praising Goldwater come almost as frequently as letters in praise of Kennedy. The one Senator Wisconsin students ask to meet is Goldwater," said Proxmire.

Of this surprising admission, Wisconsin Republican Congressman John Byrnes told HUMAN EVENTS: "Proxmire is a real weather vane. He always knows which way the wind is blowing. He is fully aware of this conservative movement and knows that there is even more to come. You can see he's not taking any chances, because his own voting record is becoming more conservative, which is really something."

Court and Labor: A series of Supreme Court decisions, all made public in the same sitting April 17, has placed bad roadblocks in the path of the National Labor Relations Board's efforts to enforce the Taft-Hartley Law's prohibition of the "closed shop," under which only union members may be hired or hold their jobs.

Conspicuous among NLRB policies thus balked was the so-called "Brown-Olds doctrine," heretofore used by the board in forcing unions and compliant employers to pay back to workers all dues and other union fees collected from them during six months preceding the filing of a complaint leading to a finding that an illegal closed shop was being operated.

This doctrine has been regarded as the most powerful weapon devised by the board against the closed shop.

In other decisions the High Court weakened NLRB restrictions on the International Typographical Union's enforcement of its rigid contracts with employers, which require that foremen in composing (typesetting) departments be ITU members and in charge of hiring temporary or permanent help. Employers had pleaded that this provision meant in practice that only union members would be hired.

The Court also invalidated board efforts to knock out union "hiring halls" which the board held could be used to coerce unwilling workers into union membership.

Observers ask: Does this trend in Supreme Court decisions mean that "the Court has read the election returns"?

Dean Acheson: The Republican National Committee publication *Battle Line* has scored Dean Acheson for wearing two hats in his foreign policy dealings.

The publication noted that the former Secretary of State, who is chairman of the President's advisory committee on NATO, recently conferred on official business with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer in Bonn. Then, as a private attorney, the Dean went to the World Court and represented Cambodia in a dispute with Thailand. Cambodia has been a mouthpiece for the Soviet Union regarding Laos. Thailand has called for a stiff stand against the USSR. Said *Battle Line*:

"Mr. Acheson's ability to switch overnight from official to private attorney raises some interesting questions:

"1. Since he operated in the foreign affairs field as both an official and an attorney, is he guilty of more than moral conflict of interest? 2. Does Thailand think Dean Acheson is acting as a representative of the President of the United States or as a paid private individual? 3. Does Dean Acheson advise the President and his former aide, Dean Rusk, as a disinterested official or as an attorney representing foreign governments?"

Press Secrecy: "This Administration has done more than any other in opening government information to the public."

"The Kennedy Administration has curbed the free flow of news more than any other Administration in this century."

The first of these irreconcilable statements was made to an American Society of Newspaper Editors meeting here April 20 by Pierre Salinger, press secretary to President Kennedy.

The other was in Chicago two days previously by Herbert G. Klein, editor of the San Diego (Calif.) *Union* and press secretary to Richard M. Nixon during the 1960 campaign.

The assembled editors, trying to strike a balance between the two, obviously liked Klein's term of "Kennedy sound barriers" to describe the recent piping-down of anti-Soviet news and statements.

Some observed that if Klein had an axe to grind, so did Salinger.

The editors had before them also a report from their society's "freedom of information" committee strongly critical of secrecy in official sections.

The committee, headed by Eugene S. Pulliam, Jr., managing editor of the Indianapolis *News*, asserted that reporters are having continuous and increasing trouble in getting information, particularly from the State and Defense Departments.

General Walker: Major General Edwin A. Walker has been relieved of his command of the 24th Infantry Division in Germany as a result of allegations that he gave troops material from the John Birch Society.

The allegations were made by the *Overseas Weekly*, a privately-owned newspaper catering to

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servicemen abroad, usually featuring sex, cheesecake photographs and comic strips.

One Washington reaction: General Walker would have avoided all of his difficulties—in fact, he might have been promoted to 3-star or 4-star rank—if he had concentrated upon the distribution of "non-controversial" publications like *The Nation,* the *New Republic,* the *Reporter,* and the *Saturday Review*—all of which are much beloved by the higher ups in Washington.

State Department Snub: Recently the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, which has its headquarters in Washington, attempted to send a representative to a State Department briefing on disarmament—but was turned down. Observers for many left-wing groups, however, the Americans for Democratic Action included, were allowed to attend the disarmament briefing without any check of their credentials.

The State Department denied the American Coalition representative admission on the ground that State had never heard of the organization. Hearst Washington bureau chief David Sentner commented:

> **"It seems inconceivable that our State Department, with its widespread availability for intelligence on such matters as Laos, Berlin, the Congo and goings on behind the Iron Curtain, should not have some knowledge of such old line American patriotic groups . . . ."**

Finally, State informed the American Coalition that it could send a representative to future briefings, if it could answer a series of questions proving that it was a responsible organization.

The Coalition's president, Milton M. Lory, sent a detailed answer to the State Department on April 9 describing his organization's makeup, which, he said, "stands by the classical concepts of the free Republic." As we went to press, Lory had received no answer from State.

Capitol Camera: VP Lyndon Johnson just returned from a tour of Africa, a continent about which he knows little. Originally, some months ago, Johnson was slated to tour Latin America (about which he knows a good deal); but left-wing Kennedy adviser Arthur Schlesinger replaced him on that junket. The grapevine says that the White House killed Lyndon's Latin junket, because he favors conservative regimes among our neighbors; Schlesinger got the mission because he is against all dictators, except, of course, left-wing ones.

• *German journalists visiting Capitol Hill remark on how poor and distorted are news dispatches from Europe to the US press. They see Adenauer a sure winner in the coming elections in Germany; Willy Brandt, the Socialist (who got a big reception here), has no chance. Furthermore, they say that Adenauer and De Gaulle work closely and harmoniously together; they are amazed at stories in our papers reporting conflict between the two big leaders, say they are completely untrue.*

• Another clamp-down on an outspoken military man by the Administration. This time it's Admiral Samuel B. Frankel, Naval Intelligence Deputy Director and expert on Russia. Defense Department deleted a passage in a speech by Frankel, in which he said some people were "deluded" about value of negotiations with Russia. "Standard form" —these days in Washington.

• *There is much agreement on Capitol Hill with the reaction of Congressman Bruce Alger (R.-Tex.) to the tax recommendations Kennedy sent to Congress last week. Alger said they were "a declaration of war on American free enterprise."*

• Under Kennedy's foreign aid recommendations, Yugoslavia is reportedly scheduled to receive $100 million annually. Yet Marshal Tito, Yugoslavian dictator, called for immediate UN action to halt the Cuban invasion and declared: "I believe it is not only an attack on Cuba and her independence but also on peace in the world."

• *The Democrats had quite a time during the late campaign lambasting Ike for his golfing. But a check shows that, during the first two and a half months of their respective Administrations, Eisenhower went to the golf course six times, Kennedy seven times.*

• The New Jersey Republican gubernatorial nomination runoff last week, in which former Labor Secretary James Mitchell defeated State Senators Walter Jones and Wayne Dumont, Jr., was a political standoff as far as a "modern Republican mandate" goes. Jersey observers—not necessarily conservative —say that Dumont and Jones split the conservative vote, while Mitchell, who is of the Case-Rockefeller philosophy, ran a fairly conservative campaign. Actually, many GOP pros wanted Mitchell, because they think he has a better chance to win in the election November 12.

• *Dr. Henry D. Smyth, former Atomic Energy Commissioner, is reported to have the inside track as the new United States representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. Smyth's appointment would be looked upon with reservations by many here since he has been criticized in the past for having revealed valuable technological data to the Russians in his book,* Atomic Energy for Military Purposes. *The IAEA lends out fissionable material and technical data to most countries which are members of the United Nations, including Russia.*

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It may be laid as an universal rule that a government which attempts more than it ought will perform less.
—T. B. Macaulay: Comic Dramatists of the Restoration, 1841

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Nothing Down -- 40 Years to Pay

HOUSING CHIEF Dr. Robert C. Weaver proved on "Meet the Press" that he is a brilliant and articulate spokesman for the New Frontier. Dr. Weaver, a Ph.D. from Harvard, will be the first Negro to become a Cabinet member if and when his agency—retitled the "Department of Urban Affairs" —is given Cabinet rating.

The central theme of the Administration's housing program, a nothing-down, 40-year-payment proposal, should have been the subject for searching inquiry by the "Meet the Press" panelists. Instead, it was glossed over with highly superficial questions.

Under the proposed program, the purchaser of a $15,000 house, paying nothing down, will make monthly payments, principal and interest, of $80. He will be getting title to the house, though paying only two-thirds of the normal rent. Heads he wins, tails Uncle Sam loses.

Paying the current 5¾ per cent rate of interest, his equity when the $15,000 house is 10 years old will be only $1,306. He will still owe $13,694.

The depreciation after 10 years, calculated on a 40-year basis, will be $3,750—obsolescence may make it much higher—as against an equity of only $1,305.59.

Against his negligible equity, consider three factors: (1) the normal decline in real estate values as a neighborhood gets older; (2) the improvement in home design; and (3) the market: who will buy used housing when the purpose of the nothing-down, 40-years-to-pay plan is to enable low-income families always to buy NEW housing?

Liberals will reply that the number of FHA foreclosures is remarkably small. True, but the reason is that, since 1939, we have been living in an era of rampant real estate inflation. *Will real estate values forever continue rising?* They never have in the past. Unsound practices may be highly stimulating for a time, but the collapse comes when "everybody" insists that there will never be a collapse.

If the homeowner a decade hence decides to move to California or wants a bigger house, what will he do about the $15,000 house on which he still owes nearly $13,700? He certainly won't be able to

DR. ROBERT C. WEAVER

sell it for the amount of the debt; in all probability, he will simply abandon it. In fact, even if he doesn't go to California, the economically-sound move for him 10 years hence would be to tell FHA to repossess the house. After foreclosure, he ought to be able to buy it for 30 or 40 per cent less than he owes. But he may prefer to buy a brand new $15,000 house with all the 1971 gadgets—the terms being nothing-down and $80 a month—counting interest.

When and if homes in massive numbers revert to FHA, government deficits will inevitably run into the tens of billions—additional pressure for inflation. But that foreclosure epidemic may not come for 10 or 20 years; liberal politicians remember what Lord Keynes said: "In the long run we are all dead"—meaning "After us, the deluge."

Weaver was asked whether the Administration's 40-year-payment-plan program was "private industry's last chance" to provide new housing for low-income families. Perhaps the interrogator was thinking of Great Britain. The 1945-51 Labor Government nearly wiped out the construction of

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new private housing. By executive decree 90 per cent of all building labor and materials were allocated to government-owned housing, only 10 per cent to private housing. Applications to build from persons who had scraped and saved for 20 or 30 years so they could own their own homes were summarily turned down. They were turned down because they had some money, even if not very much, and therefore were judged not to be "needy."

Nothing in the British experience indicates that the government could build houses for less; quite the contrary, government construction there as everywhere else costs more—considerably more.

DR. WEAVER was asked whether he would seek to end featherbedding in construction and promote mass production. "Yes," replied Weaver. Fortunately for the guest, the panel did not probe deeper. Had the interrogation gone further, the Housing chief might have been forced to admit that the principal obstacles to lower-cost construction are the building trades unions. Where they control, they often require two men to do the work of one and sometimes in addition demand that several journeymen be paid to sit around and watch the two do the work of one.

Weaver's background suggests the folly of expecting that he could, even if he tried, do anything to cut construction costs. For several years Weaver was an official in Federal and New York City housing agencies. For 30 years, New York City has had none but liberal mayors and city administrators. How much have he and his fellow-liberals accomplished in cutting housing costs—the one sound way to give more and better housing to all, including the poor? They have accomplished precisely nothing! In public, their hearts have bled for the ill-housed. Yet, despite all their protestations, restrictive labor practices have grown rather than diminished through the years.

The reason?

A building project in the nation's metropolis is regarded by union leaders as a golden opportunity for legalized hijacking. City officials dare not interfere; they owe their jobs to the labor bosses.

The Kennedy Administration, instead of striking at monopoly unionism—the source of labor extortion—is seeking to add to union power in the building trades by urging legislation to permit common situs picketing (thus making possible secondary boycotts) and to repeal the Taft-Hartley ban on the closed shop.

To liberals, the Kennedy-Weaver program makes political sense. The higher construction costs go, the less the capacity for the low-income families and middle-income families and the elderly to own their own homes. The greater the "need" for public housing, and the larger the vote for the political party that declares for "government with a heart."

When people find they can no longer do things for themselves, they become desperate; for reason of self-preservation, they must vote for the candidate promising them the most government help.

The Fabians know what they are doing.

If you don't like what is ahead, sit down and write your editor and your Congressman. If enough people like you act, the trend can be reversed. There is still time to prove Harry Hopkins was wrong when he said what liberals count upon to be true: "The people are too dumb to understand."

'Open Letter' to JFK

House and Home *magazine has written an "Open Letter" to the President sharply critical of his message to Congress on "Housing." Speaking of the no-down-payment, 40-year plan, it said*:

"First effect of no-down [payment], 40-year financing for new homes priced under, say, $13,500 might be to break the price or weaken the market for 22 million reasonably good existing nonfarm homes now priced below the ceiling (not counting 6.7 million that are dilapidated or lack a private inside bath). This in turn would make it difficult or impossible for owner-occupants to sell their under-$13,500 homes and so get their equity out to buy the better homes many of them can now afford. So the more cheap new homes are sold to first-time buyers by the no-down [payment] financing you propose, the fewer better homes can be sold to second-time buyers trading up."

The magazine asked President Kennedy to change the New Frontier's emphasis from "minimum housing" (too many already have been built, it said) to the "quality home." It described the quality home as—"a house so much better than yesterday's best that yesterday's best is as obsolete as yesterday's car. The New Frontier for housing is a home that takes all the drudgery out of housework, a home that is cool in summer and warm in winter, a home that is well lighted day and night, a home with big enough rooms and ample storage, a home that costs much less to heat and much less to maintain, a home planned for more enjoyment of the land, a home in a better planned community."

House and Home's most important plea to the President was contained in the following paragraph:

"If you will help the housing industry save the money now wasted on the chaos of codes, the money now wasted on closing costs, the money now wasted on the discounts necessitated by uncertain financing, and the money now wasted on land-price inflation, the housing industry can build and sell those quality homes at prices so attractive that millions of families will want to buy them and housing can once again be a great growth factor in our expanding economy."

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Peace Corps Fascinates Youth

Just What is Wrong with the Proposal?

THOUSANDS of American youths have shown a phenomenal interest in President Kennedy's program for a Peace Corps. Why does HUMAN EVENTS take a negative attitude toward an idea so enthusiastically supported by so many eager young people?

A great deal can be said for the proposal that young people can serve by going abroad as volunteers, giving of their skills and experience for bare expenses. As a matter of fact, Americans have been doing exactly that for a century or more. Able young volunteers have brought American generosity and American skills to China, India, Africa, and other underdeveloped and war-devastated areas of the globe.

These people were all sent by private agencies. They did not represent the American government. Even when they made serious mistakes, they did not inspire "Yanks, go home!" signs. The natives judged them as individuals or as representatives of a religious denomination or even as Americans, but not as agents of the United States Government—which they were not.

Most of the Americans who went abroad over the years were sent by the missionary societies of church denominations. Others were sent by private non-profit organizations set up after World War I (like the Near East Foundation) or by college groups like Yale-in-China. They have made indispensable contributions in education, health, and farming skills.

A recent visitor to the HUMAN EVENTS office is a missionary to Central America. He and his wife have spent 20 years working with an Indian tribe. The whole family speaks fluently the little known Indian tongue—as well as Spanish, the official language of the country. He and his wife teach the basic subjects in a small school. His oldest son at 11 years of age is the arithmetic teacher. He teaches 15 and 20 year old Indians who come to school of their own free will. When they are careless, he—an 11 year old—keeps them after school. They accept the penalty, knowing the purpose is to help them.

The religious denominations of America have tens of thousands of these young people all over the world. They have been in darkest Africa for generations.

Some US missionaries, at the risk of their lives, stayed on in China after the Communist take-over despite Communist hatred for anything connected with Christianity.

The missionary-educational effort of the American people has been carried out with amazingly small amounts of money—the voluntary contributions of American churches. Traditionally, the farmer's wife gives some of her egg money to the missionary society. In the cities, fund-raising suppers are served in which all the food is donated by members of the ladies aid societies.

Perhaps the most glorious example of American voluntary effort was that headed by Herbert Hoover, from the first days of the invasion of Belgium in 1914 to the last days of the man-made famine in Soviet Russia. Any American needing inspiration should read *An American Epic,* the report of the Hoover missions, written by Herbert Hoover and published by the Henry Regnery Company, Chicago. Beginning in 1914, the Hoover mission kept alive the Belgian victims of Schrecklichkeit; after the war, they nourished back to health the German victims of the Allied blockade; they saved from starvation some 10 million Russian victims of the Bolshevik Revolution. Every staff member was a volunteer. And miracle of miracles, when the work was done, our world-wide relief efforts were quietly closed out. No pyramid of power was left to hunt new worlds to conquer.

Every dollar of the millions spent by the Hoover missions was a private gift.

With a record as magnificent as that, why should any American accept the idea that such services are effective only when under government auspices, paid for out of tax funds, and set up in a never-to-be-demobilized section of the growing Federal monolith?

Now we come to the vital question:

Why can missionary societies, philanthropic foundations, and private non-profit organizations do a better job than the Federal government?

First, missionary headquarters have had decades of experience in screening out the romantically naive see-the-world applicants. Secondly, they can be tougher than modern governments in handling those they send abroad. The writer of this article, in his newspaper editing days, once had a reporter who enlisted as a missionary to India. After a few months in India, the young man decided that missionary life was not for him. He was dismissed; it was up to him to get himself home. No benevolent government paid his expenses to the United States. To get home, he had to take the long way around. He spent three months scrubbing decks on a slow freighter. There were times when he wished himself back in India.

When this day-dreamer went astray, some damage may have been done to the reputation of his denomination, but his failure did not reflect upon the United States Government. If he had been working for a Kennedy-type Peace Corps, think of the uproar if he had given a distorted reason for his discharge to a syndicated sob-sister.

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Privately sponsored teachers and technicians have many advantages. Natives put more trust in missionaries or other private citizens than in government employees. Whether true or not, government corpsmen will be assumed to be undercover agents of the Central Intelligence Agency.

How well can the Federal government screen the people it sends into foreign countries?

Proof of idealism may be the decisive element in the early selections, but before long, a letter from a Congressman—especially one whose vote the New Frontier needs to convert—will be a factor in making selections.

Liberals are already insisting that the corpsmen are not to be sent out to promote traditional American principles. They must not combat communism. Boys and girls with strong anti-Communist convictions will certainly be screened out. Soft-toward-communism applicants will be preferred applicants. The corpsmen will not be allowed to discuss religion in any manner whatsoever. No doubt, government supervisors will see that the corpsmen say nothing critical of Communist colonialism—nor anything good about America or religion.

LEFT-WING groups know that everything the US Government does affects the "balance of power" within a nation. They intend to move in fast. They are already insisting—with the support of liberal commentators and professors—that corpsmen must not be required to take the loyalty oath nor must they be subjected to more than a superficial probe of their attitude toward communism.

Very few of the purely romantic see-the-world type of young people offer their service to religious denominations. Missionary work is not something that young people go into on impulse. Many of them are children or relatives of missionaries. Foreign service for their church has often been their principal goal from the time they were children.

The tens of thousands of young people enthusiastically offering their "services" to the government today include a large percentage who never had a thought of this kind until they read glamorous stories of the Peace Corps. Some became interested primarily because they think of it as a small select group sponsored personally by the President and headed by his brother-in-law.

The youth corps is the dream of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who for many years has been asking for "universal service" on government projects for both boys and girls. It is instinctive with Mrs. Roosevelt to believe that service to humanity should be directed by government rather than by private or religious agencies.

Why did the President, when the Peace Corps was proposed to him, favor Federal government generosity rather than the expansion of the many private agencies already engaged in this kind of activity?

The choice was a real test of the President's fundamental philosophy. His reaction was that government should do it. Government could finance it. He recognized that youngsters could render an important service, but he thought they should do so under the direction of government.

If the President's convictions had run toward individual resourcefulness and personal responsibility, his reaction would have been entirely different. Understanding what the great religious denominations and private agencies are doing, he could have called their foreign service leaders to the White House. He could have praised the young people who, through the years, have given their lives to helping primitive peoples all over the world. He could have appealed for volunteers and for the funds to sustain them.

Had he done so, more than enough volunteers would have responded; experienced missionary leadership would have done the screening.

The funds needed—to be given to the religious or non-profit organization of the donor's choice—would have been over-subscribed. Why not today when Hoover got all the millions he could use during the 1914-1919 years?

THE GENEROUS impulses of young people, their eagerness to help others without skeptical questioning, is one of the most beautiful things in life. Older people have no right to discourage that enthusiasm even when it is naive. They *do* have a duty to channel it in ways that will be fruitful. They have a duty to protect these young people from exploitation by the greedy, the powerful, or the ambitious.

The kind of peace corps we have had for a century has lived in Asia, Africa, the Near East, and Europe, bringing food, health, welfare, and education without benefit of government direction or a penny of government funds.

Now, unless Congress takes a hand, we are to have a new kind—the left-wing collectivist model—channeling this youthful zeal to the service of the monolithic American state.

For the long run, perhaps the most evil effect of a government Peace Corps is that the thousands who join the corps will automatically think of government programs as the solution to all problems, the means to all good ends. Their training will inculcate them with the belief that charity and aid should be siphoned through government; costs should be paid for by means of taxes. This is collectivism. It is not the philosophy of individual responsibility and voluntary activity.

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HUMAN EVENTS

--- COMMENTARY ---

"When all government, domestic and foreign, in little as in great things, shall be drawn to Washington as the centre of all power, it will render powerless the checks provided of one government on another, and will become as venal and oppressive as the government from which we separated."

—Thomas Jefferson

Vol. XVIII, No. 17 — Section IV April 28, 1961

Bob Kennedy's Future

By Walter Trohan

ATTORNEY GENERAL Robert F. Kennedy was seen as tossing his old school tie [Harvard, of course] into the ring for the 1968 Democratic Presidential nomination at a carefully staged press conference in the vaulted dimness of the No. 1 office in the Department of Justice.

With his hair freshly cut, the 35 year old brother of President Kennedy looked younger than ever seated behind the massive desk in his office before the conference. The 150 reporters present were reminded of Junior Achievement Day, on which boy mayors take over the chief burgher's desk in many city halls. Kennedy was flanked by a staff that could easily have posed for a photo of the Harvard class of '45.

The second youngest Attorney General's press conference was staged live for radio. Unlike his brother, he was unable to command live TV coverage, but there were TV news reel cameras for his announcement of legislation aimed at organized crime and ridicule of the John Birch Society, a far right wing organization which is battling communism.

In his first full dress meeting with the press, the Attorney General was a bit tense, but he handled himself well. There were occasional flashes which recalled his brother in his confident attitude and in some of his gestures.

On the whole, reporters agreed that he might handle a White House conference as easily as his brother, although President Kennedy has been leaving sentences unfinished, been careless with syntax, and been groping for words in his more recent encounters with the press. This may be because the President hasn't been studying press conference appearances as he did on his earliest encounters.

The Attorney General has said that he plans to stick on his job for four years. He added that "perhaps sometime I would like to run for office, but I haven't got any plans at the present time."

Most observers believe that the President's Harvard roommate, Benjamin A. Smith (D.-Mass.), is keeping a Senate seat warm for the Attorney General.

It is expected that the Attorney General will seek the seat then as a step toward the White House.

THIS IS A 'NEW' FRONTIER?

The Attorney General has been brought up to rival his brother as his brother was brought up to rival an older brother, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., who died a hero's death as a World War II aviator.

The eldest son was being groomed for a political career with the White House as his objective. When he died, the second son, who had tried to better everything his brother did, took over the political career. Robert took over the role of the brotherly rival.

Curiously enough, the youngest Attorney General, Richard Rush, who at 33 served under James Madison, ran for Vice President with John Quincy Adams when the latter was defeated by Andrew Jackson.

Many Republican leaders believe that if President Kennedy doesn't stub his toe, he has reelection in '64 safely in his grasp. And if he does well, Robert Kennedy would appear to have the way to the White House paved for him.

The third Kennedy son, Edward M., has begun a political career as a prosecuting attorney with hopes of going to Congress, so that he might be available in '76, when he could pose with his two older brothers in the 20th century version of the familiar Revolutionary painting as "The Spirit of the Kennedys."

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Will Hoffa Trigger Nationwide Strike?

By Victor Riesel

JIMMIE HOFFA has a master plan to win for the Teamsters the power to paralyze the nation's transport with a general strike at 12:01 a.m., February 1, 1964.

This disturbs the Kennedy brothers as much as any McClellan Committee revelations.

Hoffa's master plan calls for a "master contract" for all regional and long distance (over the road) trucking and cartage. His intent is to have such a contract centrally printed by his Washington national Teamsters brotherhood.

Copies of this uniform contract would be distributed by the thousands to local unions all over the US. They would then have the trucking companies sign it. This contract, which he is attempting to put into force for the first time in New England, would expire at midnight January 30, 1964.

For a long time now, Hoffa has been telling newsmen that the thought of a general strike is ridiculous. It was exactly a year ago, when he first moved the master plan into the national spotlight, that he said:

"The Teamsters Union over the past six years has moved so close to national uniformity in trucking that the final step—the national master contract—will almost certainly be achieved without the necessity of a strike of any kind . . . . Nevertheless you will hear more and more 'scare talk' as the months go by. This is the technique of our enemies—to falsify facts to serve their own ends . . . ."

Hoffa's pledge that he will not call a national strike is not the point at all. The fact is that if his master plan succeeds, his Teamsters Union under any other leadership will have that power in perpetuity.

Except for insiders, few seem to understand the real nature of the power which Jimmie H. would give to all future Teamsters' presidents—even if he angelically refrains from using it. That power catapults from the strategic nature of local carting and over-the-road hauling.

To understand this, it is necessary first to know the nature of the Teamsters' massive internal operation.

The giant union is organized into four "Conferences"—meaning regions. These are the Eastern, Southern, Central States and Western. Each is headed by a vice president. Each has a central setup covering all the local unions in the geographic area regardless of what their members deliver or handle. But crossing the Conference's regional lines are 16 National Divisions. Each covers a single "trade."

Thus milk, cheese, butter and egg deliverers' locals in any part of the country are all in one national dairy division. Brewery and soft drink workers are in a national beverage division. Bread workers are in a bakery division. And the carting and over-the-road trucking are in still another national division.

This latter division is the most important operation in Hoffa's scheme of things. This is the one group which really can tie up the land. A national bakery division strike would irritate some people, anger the baking companies and cut calories for a while. So it would be with a milk-dairy division strike across the land, etc.

But a local cartage and long-haul division strike could cripple everything after a while. This section of the Teamsters pours the basic raw material into our industrial maw. Such a strike would keep the flour from the bakeries so you could not get bread anyway. Such a stoppage would keep tin and bottles from the breweries and soda plants so you couldn't get beer and pop.

Such a walkout could keep heavy machinery from the big factories.

Obviously, this national, local and long-distance trucking division is the Teamsters' most strategic grouping.

How does Hoffa plan to get one master contract covering such trucking? Typical of Hoffa's tactics is what has been happening in New England. He has asked for an area contract which he hopes will soon cover all Teamsters in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont. Not all Teamsters' New England contracts now expire at the same time—and he wants them to end the very same minute others do, uniformly in other "Conferences."

His technique is simple. First he wants all long and short-haul Teamsters' local contracts to be indentical in a "small" area (such as metropolitan New York City) with a common expiration date. Then he would have this bargaining expanded into regions. Then into his four geographic "Conferences" (East, Central, South and Western). Then eventually he would merge them into one master contract, printed in Washington with the local's number added to it.

But there are some locals, especially in the East, which are bucking him. So he hopes to change the Teamster constitution at the coming convention to make such bargaining mandatory on all.

Finally, in effect, he and anyone who succeeds him to the Teamsters' presidency, will sit with one or two spokesmen for the employers and make decisions for millions.

This is power indeed!

Congress vs. the President

It seems to me our liberties are better safeguarded by the cumulative judgment of the 100 members of the Senate and the 437 members of the House than by entrusting all powers to the man who occupies the mansion at the opposite end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

—Senator Barry Goldwater

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A Civil Defense Story

The following letter to J. Bracken Lee, Mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah, from that city's Director of Civil Defense is self-explanatory:

March 24, 1961

"My Dear Mayor:

"Regarding our conversation of the Government's willingness to give us matching funds called "606" for Civil Defense use, I wish to advise you of the following:

"The Government's representative, Mr. Joe Jardin, drew up plans for the use of these matching funds based on a tentative budget of $14,000. To receive this matching fund, the Salt Lake City Civil Defense would be bound by certain obligations, namely, to join the State Merit System for our employees and also to hire additional employees. For these employees the Government listed the following help needed:

"Besides our present Director and office secretary we would need (1) an administrative officer, (2) an operational officer, (3) a training officer, (4) a public information officer, and (5) one office clerk.

"As Director of Salt Lake City Civil Defense, I refused to accept this program knowing we had no need for these extra employees and also because the matching funds would be absorbed for new employees. Therefore I could see no reason in accepting this.

"At a later date Mr. Jardin drew up a new formula for Salt Lake City Civil Defense still based upon $14,000. The change was in the number of employees that would be needed. This new formula would be an increase in salary for the Director which at present is $5,820 to a scale yearly salary starting at $6,360 to $7,740. A new operational officer would receive $4,980 to $6,060. The new public information officer would receive $4,500 to $5,460. The new secretary's salary would be reduced to $3,180 from $3,900. This again was refused by me as Director of Salt Lake City Civil Defense in a letter dated December 8, 1960, to Mr. Leonard A. Higgins, Director of Utah State Civil Defense. Regarding the funds the Government wanted Salt Lake City to accept for investigation of business houses, residences, mines, etc., for bomb shelters, the amount the Government wanted Salt Lake City to accept to make this survey was $41,000. By accepting this $41,000 to make this survey, Salt Lake City Civil Defense would have to hire engineers, architects and sufficient clerical help to compile the information on these buildings and residential homes. This again was refused by this office."

Sincerely yours.
Ben H. Smith, Director
Salt Lake City Civil Defense

A Tax Shocker

Don't give up, old buddy; the pay you earn will be your own. May 13th will be the first day of 1961 on which you will have been working for yourself. On all the preceding 132 days you have been working for Uncle Sam—all you have earned will go for taxes, federal, state and local.

—Cleveland Plain Dealer

Unemployment Compensation

By Congressman A. Sydney Herlong, Jr. (D.-Fla.)

Congress has passed, and the President has signed, the bill to extend unemployment compensation payments. I supported this bill and I hope it's all right. All of us on the Committee, however, expressed concern lest we go so far overboard that we do, in fact, make periodic unemployment too attractive. The Secretary of Labor told us that there was actually no way to really police applicants for compensation to determine whether they were really trying to get a job. He said they have no way to know whether the applicant has refused an offer of a good job unless the prospective employer reports it to the Employment Service, which we are told isn't customarily done, even though employers are requested by the Service to do so.

Asking for Trouble

From the Houston Chronicle

One of the most remarkable proposals we have read in a long time, and at the same time one of the most alarming, was sounded by Governor David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania.

Addressing the American Municipal Association, he called for the establishment of a Federal Department of Urban Affairs "to end the Federal efforts to shift urban renewal, airport development, water-pollution abatement and the planning of community facilities" to the states!

This is about as specious a phrase as has come to light in a long time. Both Federal authorities and state and local authorities have been trying for years, with a good deal of success, to shift these and other preliminary local and state functions onto the Federal government.

The governor also wants to enlarge the various programs of Federal assistance in scope, in amount and in continuity. Such projects now are being handled on a sharing basis, but Lawrence would end the partnership and make all such efforts a Federal responsibility.

If this keeps on, it will defeat itself. The Federal Treasury is not bottomless. And what both private citizens and some pretty big public officials seem to forget or ignore is that the money it disburses comes from the states in the first place.

Automation and Joblessness

Fear swept through female switchboard operators when automatic dialing was introduced in 1919. But not only does the Bell System now employ 182,000 operators for special calls; there would not be enough women in this land today—phone operators, housewives, mothers and schoolteachers—to operate the phone system for even one hour if we relied on switchboard operators.

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Whatever the topic of current events may be, he adds that he has recently read an interesting report on the subject in HUMAN EVENTS. He then asks his listener if he is familiar with the publication, explaining that it is a weekly newsletter from Washington which provides the reader with a good insight into the affairs of our National Government, and a news commentary not found in most newspapers. At this point he displays his current envelope of HUMAN EVENTS, and remarks, "You owe it to yourself to try it . . . *FIVE WEEKS FOR $1—YOU CAN'T GO WRONG!* Give me just one dollar, and I'll be happy to order your trial subscription for you. After reading these five issues, I am sure that you will find it so informative that you will want to continue receiving it."

Bill tells us that just about all of these five-week subscribers do continue their subscriptions, and furthermore, they thank him for introducing them to HUMAN EVENTS.

Scores of subscribers in the Pacific Northwest will smile gratefully when they read this story. It tells how they became acquainted with HUMAN EVENTS. Maybe YOU would like to get into the habit of using these stirring words:

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PLAN TO ATTEND SECOND HUMAN EVENTS CONFERENCE

July 14 & 15, 1961

The HUMAN EVENTS Summer Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15, at Washington's famous Mayflower Hotel. The 87th Congress will be approaching the end of its first session.

Fifteen leading members of Congress will be the Conference speakers. Their names will be announced in an early issue of HUMAN EVENTS. You should get acquainted with them.

They will appraise the activities of the New Frontier. They will answer your questions.

They will tell you what you can do back home to promote sound legislation, and to defeat unsound legislation.

Advance notice of the Summer Conference was given to the 500 who attended the First Conference last January 5 and 6. **Nearly 100 from that group have indicated their intention to attend the July Conference.**

Three hundred applications for the January Conference had to be rejected because of the limited number that could be accommodated. Only 500 can be handled in July. Get in your reservation NOW if you would like to attend.

Bring your sons and daughters. This Conference will begin their education in PRACTICAL POLITICAL ACTION.

Conference fee will be $75 per person, and $40 for additional members of the same family—wives, sons, daughters. The $40 rate will apply to students, teachers and clergymen. Fees are refunded to those who make reservations but are unable to come.

This Conference comes at the height of the tourist season in Washington, therefore only a limited number of hotel rooms can be reserved.

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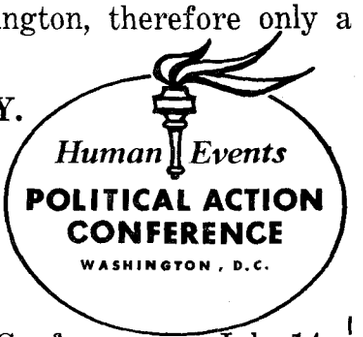

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Red Judges on the World Court

From the Chicago Tribune

Those who are battling to scrap the Connally reservation to the United States adherence to the International Court of Justice at The Hague will please notice that the new president of the court is the representative of communist Poland. Also, that the Soviet Union has just installed a new judge on the 15 member panel.

The Connally reservation removes from the jurisdiction of the World Court those matters which are deemed to be within the domestic jurisdiction of the United States, as determined by the United States. The internationalists have launched a determined campaign to get rid of the protections of the reservation. They call it "self-judging" and argue that as long as it stands we are subject to the recrimination that we do not trust our associates in the United Nations.

The new appointments to the court offer good reasons why we should not. Only a completely naive person would imagine that communist judges would ever act outside communist ideology, or pass up an opportunity to use the court to advance communist interests or to embarrass the United States.

As matters stand, only 14 nations adhering to the jurisdiction of the court accept compulsory jurisdiction in all cases. This represents 17 per cent of all nations adhering. Sixteen nations have major reservations in accepting the court's jurisdiction. Eight others have declarations enabling them to withdraw at will from the court. India has withdrawn her adherence entirely. No communist nation has ever accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the court, with or without reservation.

The new Polish chief judge, Bohdan Winiarski, is 77 years old and, after serving the noncommunist Polish government in exile during World War II, found it possible to make an accommodation with the communists when they took over Poland at the end of the war. He was regarded by them as sufficiently reliable politically to merit appointment to the court in 1946. His behavior has never given offense to his bosses.

The new Soviet judge, Vladimir Koretsky, is 71 years old and has served the communist regime in various important capacities as a legal adviser to Soviet diplomatic missions. His background assures that he would view the court as another apparatus for the realization of Soviet aims in the war against civilization.

It is to judges of this stripe that the Connally repeal forces would entrust the concerns of the United States, indifferent to the fact that judges from monolithic governments act as agents of the state and make no pretense of being unbiased.

The Agriculture Mess

From the Indianapolis News

The American taxpayer is the shorn lamb in the Agriculture Department's strange lamb dealings.

In its program of buying surplus domestic lamb to improve prices the department has acquired 4,500,000 pounds at a cost of $1.75 million.

At the same time it has imported 14 million pounds of lamb at a cost of $3.5 million in the last three months.

In the words of Representative Odin Langen (R.-Minn.), "This is one of the strangest applications of the quota and tariff system in history."

The government itself is buying these import lambs because of their bad effect on the domestic market, already artificially upheld by government purchases of American-produced mutton.

This is only a small footnote in the strange book of Washington political farming, where a government which pays farmers not to farm on established farm land, in order to reduce surpluses, builds great desert reclamation projects to add millions more acres which the government pays farmers not to farm.

Underdeveloped Countries

The slogan of the African Nationalists is: "One Man, One Vote." This in some quarters is taken as a sign of how underdeveloped their countries really are. However, there is positively no truth in the report that big city machines in the United States have offered technical aid to show them how to get at least three votes out of every two citizens.

—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

SENATOR CAUCUS by Pete Wyma

"I'd like to submit my wife's brother's name for the 'peace corps' but I can't think of any country that would put up with him!"

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LBJ Deplored Foreign Aid--In 1953

(Lyndon Johnson wrote a guest column for syndicated columnist Constantine Brown on September 15, 1953, on the subject of foreign aid. Johnson was then Senate Minority Leader. Lyndon should re-read his column now and pass it on to the President. If the President would heed the conclusions his Vice President expressed about the foreign aid program in 1953, as reprinted below, billions could be saved.)

THE MAJOR ISSUE before the next session of Congress will be to hammer out a new foreign policy for America.

We have reached a turning point in our foreign relations. The policies which fit the needs of yesterday do not conform well to the requirements of today. We must be sufficiently flexible to change our strategy and our tactics to meet the changing realities.

For a number of years, American foreign policy has been based upon the assumption that American aid was essential to maintain freedom in Europe. The assumption was well founded. Without our help, postwar European recovery would have been impossible. Country after country would have turned in desperation to communism. The free world would have shrunk to the dimensions of the American continents.

The United States would have been an island of freedom with its shores constantly battered by surging waves of communism.

At no time, however, did Americans contemplate an indefinite program of aid to Europe. We thought of it as temporary help to enable friends and neighbors to stand on their feet once again. We thought of it as a method through which free nations could become self-supporting and make their contribution to the mutual defense against Communist aggression.

We also knew there was a point at which the program would become unmanageable—a point at which aid would become mere charity. At that point, it would have to end. We were seeking allies and not dependents. We could not indefinitely tax our citizens to support the rest of the world.

That point appears to be here now.

The last foreign aid bill was approved in the face of deep misgivings on the part of a majority of the members of Congress.

Senator after Senator arose to announce that he was voting for his last foreign aid bill. Only extraordinary efforts on the part of the administration succeeded in securing approval.

At the next session, Congress may vote some funds to liquidate current programs. Some money may be approved for Point-Four and other types of foreign commitments. But only the most unusual circumstances will persuade the Nation's legislature to pass the enormous sums that have become a matter of course in the past few years.

The era of the open American pocketbook is out—as it should be.

Our allies must learn to live without huge sums from the American Treasury—because those sums will not be forthcoming.

That, however, is only a part of our problem. We do not form a new policy by abandoning an old one. We do not solve issues by pretending they do not exist.

The objectives of the policy which we have been following for the past few years are still valid. We want to contain communism and, if possible, send it on the retreat. We want to maintain freedom in every possible corner of the world, because it is vital to our security that we not be isolated as free men.

We can adhere to those objectives. But we must work out new methods for their attainment.

The details of a new foreign policy are far from clear. But I believe that the great majority of Americans will agree on certain guideposts which we can follow.

First, there must be no appeasement. Our leaders must make no "deals" which peddle chunks of the free world to communism like pieces of real estate. Nor must we give sanction to a dictator's enjoyment of the fruits of aggression.

Second, there must be no "dollar diplomacy," twentieth-century style.

We cannot hope to buy friends and allies, and we should not try.

We should seek to encourage the economic health of free nations through sound trade polices from which we would all profit.

But we cannot afford to sap our own vitality in a futile effort to support people incapable of supporting themselves.

Third, we must seek allies who are capable and willing to make their full contribution to the common defense. In the past, what we have called "mutual assistance" has turned out to be mutual only in the sense that we give and they take. We must insure that the concept of mutuality governs our dealings with the other free nations.

Finally, we should seek to translate the slogan "trade, not aid" into a meaningful program. It is only by unfettered exchange of goods and services that the free world can be built up into a healthy economic unit. Until that day arrives, our unity against communism will be precarious indeed.

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The Depressed Areas Bill

From the Chicago Daily News

The most celebrated "depressed area" this country ever had was probably Tombstone, Arizona. When the silver mines played out, its 7,000 residents were stranded. They solved their problem, although not without hardship, by leaving the place to the spiders and rattlesnakes.

Under the terms of the Kennedy Administration bill passed recently by the House, Tombstone would have come in for a share of $400 million in loans and subsidies.

The purpose, of course, would be to build waterworks, power stations and plant facilities to entice industry to move there and give employment to the idle Tombstoners.

Somewhere in this process, somebody would have raised the question of just why industry should be bribed to move from, say, Chicago to Tombstone. For it seems reasonable to suppose that if Tombstone had had any natural advantages for industry, such as being a center of distribution, or having ready access to water or raw materials, no special inducements would have been required to lure business there.

As it was, the people moved to where they could make a living, instead of having jobs brought to them.

There are a number of reasons why pockets of high unemployment remain in the United States. Coal mining areas are prominent among these. Mechanization has greatly reduced the number of miners needed to produce our required tonnage.

Studies have shown that jobless people stay on in these areas partly in the forlorn hope that their old jobs will reappear, partly because home ownership makes moving a sacrifice, partly because they lack skills for other employment.

Some communities, notably stricken textile centers in New England, have made imaginative and successful efforts to attract or create new industrial opportunities. Every state in the union, and many communities, are engaged in just such efforts to draw industry from other areas.

We question the fairness of a program in which the Federal government attempts to cast its weight on the side of a few in this competitive struggle. The futility of the program is demonstrated by the recent addition of Chicago to the list of "depressed areas."

Our city qualifies by virtue of having an unemployment rate of 6 per cent. That entitles us to the help of the government in attracting industry from New York the while it tries to lure Chicago industry to Centralia and West Frankfort.

The price tag is not exorbitant, as Federal boondoggles go, although there is every reason to suppose that when the initial dose is shown to be ineffective the prescription will be refilled and the dosage increased.

The program seems headed for passage, and President Kennedy will not duplicate Eisenhower's veto. The net will be that a great many people will be misled into believing that their troubles are over, and the politicians will have paid off through the Treasury for some votes they collected last November.

A Personal Experience Story

A witness offered his own story as an argument against the depressed areas bill. The witness was Robert P. Lee, manager, Area Development Department, Connecticut Light and Power Co.

As part of his testimony, Mr. Lee told the House Banking and Currency Committee's Subcommittee:

"I was born on a little island off the coast of Alaska near the mouth of the Yukon River and the City of Nome a little more than a half century ago and grew up as a young child on that island—St. Michael Island—a thriving, heavily populated community. Economic activity was fostered by a combination of circumstances—the post gold-rush mining and trading activities up the Yukon—the maintenance of a U. S. Army infantry post and the requirements of the transportation system involved.

"The Alaska Railroad had not been completed, there was no Alcan Highway, and air transport was unheard of. Thus, the freight that moved to northern Alaska by ocean-going ships was transferred at St. Michael to river boats which navigated the Yukon into the interior, or was stored in the large warehouses on the island. The Army post created its own effect on the civilian economy as did the trade with all types of business on the mainland. We had a central power plant and electric service to the homes in our town. Cold storage eggs were a dollar apiece but there was money to buy them with.

"Things have changed at St. Michael. The Army post was abandoned as a result of changed military strategy. The Alaska Railroad was built—so was the highway and so was the giant cargo and passenger fleet of the airlines. There's no economic necessity for a business community on St. Michael Island today—so there's just a small village of a few whites and Eskimos—deserted buildings and a quiet wharf. But I am here and I live and work in one of our Nation's most prosperous states. No matter how sentimental I might get about that little bit of God's country 6,000 miles from here, I don't think I should ask the government to rebuild that town and furnish me with a job opportunity. Should I have remained there and sought your aid or should I have moved to Connecticut where economic opportunity existed?"

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